

D. D. G. M.

CONSTITUTION OF
Grand Lodge
and SUBORDINATE LODGES
Independent Order of Odd Fellows

OF THE STATE OF
CONNECTICUT

As Amended and Adopted May 19, 1909



CONSTITUTION

..OF THE..

Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F.

...OF THE....

State of Connecticut

1909

CONFIDENTIAL

J. C. E. 17605 6m. 7

State of Connecticut

1905

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F.
OF THE
State of Connecticut

ARTICLE I.

TITLE AND POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

Title.

SECTION 1. This Grand Lodge shall be known by the name, style and title of "THE GRAND LODGE OF THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT," and shall be composed only of the officers formally installed and the Past Grands of Lodges regularly chosen Representatives and duly admitted, as required by this Constitution.

Powers.

SEC. 2. This Grand Lodge has jurisdiction in Odd Fellowship within the State of Connecticut, by virtue of a charter granted by the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and is the supreme tribunal of subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction. No Lodge can be formed, or continue to exist, without its sanction. It possesses the sole right and power of granting charters: of suspending or taking away charter, for proper cause; of receiving appeals, and redressing grievances arising in Lodges: of originating and regulating the means

of its own support; and of doing all such other acts as are promotive of the interests of the Order, or that appertains to it by ancient usage or custom, and that are not in violation of the laws of the land.

Seal.

SEC. 3. This Grand Lodge shall have a seal, and all official documents shall be sealed therewith.

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

Qualifications for Membership.

SECTION I. The members of the Grand Lodge shall be Past Grands, who have received the Grand Lodge Degree, and subscribed to these Articles.

Qualification of Representatives.

SEC. 2. Every Representative shall be a contributing member of the Lodge which he represents, in good standing, and must be elected by a majority of the members present.

Certificates.

SEC. 3. Every Representative of a Subordinate Lodge shall, at the time of his election, be furnished with a certificate in the following form, viz:

————— Lodge No. —, I. O. O. F.

To the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of the State of Connecticut:

This is to certify, that P G. —————
has been duly elected a Representative of this

Lodge in your Right Worthy Body, to serve for one year from the third Wednesday of May, 19

In testimony whereof, I here-
unto affix my hand and the
seal of our Lodge, this _____
day of _____, 19
_____, *Secretary.*

[L. s.]

Which certificate must be presented when the Representative offers himself for admission.

Objection

SEC. 4. If any member of the Grand Lodge objects to the admission of any Past Grand so applying, his objections shall be submitted in writing, and referred to the Committee on Credentials; and if the Committee sustain the objections, or, on vote, the Grand Lodge sustain them, they shall be communicated to the subordinate Lodge in which such Past Grand has been elected, and his application shall lie on the table until the decision of said subordinate Lodge be communicated to the Grand Lodge. Then, if such subordinate Lodge certify that it hath *duly considered such objections, and still recommends said Past Grand, believing him worthy of membership*, he shall be received as a member of the Grand Lodge. No Past Grand under suspension, or having charges preferred against him in his subordinate Lodge, shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE III.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

Election and Appointment.

SECTION I. The Elective Officers of the Grand Lodge shall be: Grand Master, Deputy Grand

Master, Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at each Annual Session.

SEC. 2. The Appointed Officers shall consist of: Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Conductor, Grand Guardian, Grand Herald, and a District Deputy Grand Master for each District, who shall be appointed by the Grand Master at the Annual Session, subject to approval by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. The Deputy Grand Master, Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, and Grand Treasurer shall constitute an Executive Council, to assist the Grand Master advisarily in the recess of the Grand Lodge.

Grand Master.

SEC. 4. The Grand Master shall preside at all meetings of the Grand Lodge; he shall preserve order, and may insist that his requirements shall be obeyed; all questions of order, however, shall be subject to appeal from his decision to the Grand Lodge. He shall, with the advice of the Executive Council, grant dispensations to open subordinates, at his discretion, when the Grand Lodge is not in session; which dispensations shall be made subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge at its next regular session. He shall appoint all Grand Officers *pro tem.*, and all committees, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge; he shall give the casting vote in all cases when the Grand Lodge is equally divided, except when the vote is taken by subordinates, in which case he shall be allowed a voice in the representation to which he belongs; he shall appoint all Grand Officers, the appointment of whom is not otherwise provided for; he may, with the advice of the Executive Council, order

special sessions of the Grand Lodge, whenever the good of the Order may appear to require it. After any sum of money shall have been voted, he shall order the Grand Treasurer to pay the same; he shall annually appoint a Deputy in each District where there are one or more Lodges, and receive reports of their official doings, and shall call a meeting of said Deputies, to be holden on the first Wednesday in June of each year (at which he shall preside), for the purpose of receiving full and definite instructions in the work of the Order; he shall, in person or by Deputy, institute subordinate Lodges, install their officers; and when officially visiting the subordinates, he shall be received with the honors of the Order. In the recess, he shall, with the advice of the Executive Council, be vested with all the powers exercised by the Grand Lodge, and his official acts and decisions, so performed or made, shall be binding, unless annulled by the Grand Lodge at its next regular session thereafter. He shall not, while presiding as Grand Master, hold any office nor serve on any committee in a subordinate Lodge.

Deputy Grand Master.

SEC. 5. The Deputy Grand Master shall support the Grand Master in presiding, and in his absence shall take the chair. In the event of the resignation, death, or removal from office, of the Grand Master, he shall become *ex officio* Grand Master, until the next regular session thereafter.

Grand Warden.

SEC. 6. The Grand Warden shall assist the Grand Master in conducting the business of the Grand Lodge; he shall, in person or by Deputy, confer the Grand Lodge Degree upon new mem-

bers, and the Past Official Degree upon all qualified Past Grands; under the Grand Master have special charge of the door; and in the absence of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, he shall preside.

Grand Secretary.

SEC. 7. The Grand Secretary shall prepare a roll of the Representatives elected to the Grand Lodge prior to the Annual Session, and make a just and true record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at every meeting; he shall keep the accounts between the Grand Lodge and its subordinates; and receive all moneys coming to the Grand Lodge therefrom; give receipt therefor, and pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer immediately, taking his receipt for the same; he shall notify the Standing Committees of their appointments, as soon as made, and forward to the chairman of each such papers and matters of business as should properly go to his committee; and shall also notify each of the subordinates of all special sessions of the Grand Lodge. He shall transmit to the Grand Secretary of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, immediately on the institution of a subordinate Lodge, the name, number, date of charter, or dispensation, and the location of the Lodge; and also the same information on the suspension or expulsion of a Lodge. He shall have charge of the seal, and of all books and papers belonging to the Grand Lodge; and for the faithful performance of his duties, he shall be entitled to such salary as shall from time to time be voted by the Grand Lodge.

Grand Treasurer.

SEC. 8. The Grand Treasurer shall receive and take charge of the moneys of the Grand Lodge; he shall pay all orders drawn on him by the Grand Master; he shall make such investments

of the funds as the Grand Lodge may direct; he shall keep the accounts in a fair and legible manner, exhibiting the sources and amount of receipts and how disposed of; the purposes and amounts of disbursements; he shall have his accounts closed at every regular session, and submit them to the Grand Lodge. He shall transmit, by the Grand Secretary, annually, to the subordinates, an exhibit of his accounts; and he shall execute to the Grand Lodge bonds, to be approved by them, for the faithful performance of the trust.

Grand Chaplain.

SEC. 9. The Grand Chaplain shall attend every session of the Grand Lodge, and assist in the opening and closing ceremonies, discharging appropriate official duties.

Grand Marshal.

SEC. 10. The Grand Marshal shall examine all new Past Grands, conduct them into the Grand Lodge, and assist the Grand Warden in conferring the Past Official Degrees; he shall superintend all Grand processions, attend the Grand Master in his official visits to the subordinates, and issue his proclamations, when necessary.

Grand Conductor.

SEC. 11. The Grand Conductor shall assist the Grand Marshal in the Grand Lodge, introduce new members to the Grand Lodge, and the officers of subordinate Lodges for installation, assist in the ceremonies of the Grand Lodge, and in preserving order therein.

Grand Guardian.

SEC. 12. The Grand Guardian shall attend at the door of the Grand Lodge, and permit none to enter or depart without the consent of the Grand Warden.

Grand Herald.

SEC. 13. The Grand Herald shall attend each meeting of the Grand Lodge; he shall securely guard the outer door of the Lodge room; and permit no one to enter without examination and receiving from him the S. A. P. W. He shall receive the cards of visiting brothers and deliver them to the Grand Guardian, to be laid before the Grand Lodge.

District Deputy Grand Master.

SEC. 14. District Deputy Grand Masters are charged with the duty of the general supervision of the interests of the Order within their respective districts. They are to obey promptly the mandates of the Grand Master, and enforce a due observance of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge; install officers; and be responsible for the correct and proper rendering of the work of the Order by the Lodges.

They are to visit all Lodges in their district as often as once in three months, and when visiting a Lodge officially shall be received with the honors of the Order.

They shall decide all questions of law that may be submitted to them by Lodges under their charge or by members thereof, and any Lodge or brother feeling aggrieved by such decision may appeal therefrom to the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge.

They shall keep a record of official proceedings, and deliver the same to their successor in office, and shall report their official acts in writing to the Grand Master, on or before the first day of May in each year.

General Duties.

SEC. 15. All Grand Officers shall, in addition to the duties specified in this Constitution, per-

form such others as the Grand Lodge may enjoin.

Qualifications for Office.

SEC. 16. No one shall be eligible for any Grand Office unless he be a member of the Grand Lodge.

Mode of Election.

SEC 17. Candidates for office may be nominated at any time previous to the election.

SEC. 18. All elective Grand Officers shall be chosen separately, by a majority of the votes given; in case no candidate has such majority, the balloting shall be continued until one of them obtains it; but when there are more than two candidates, the one having the lowest number of votes shall be withdrawn from the nomination at each succeeding ballot. All votes given for persons not in nomination shall be counted as blanks; and in case, at any election, there shall be more blanks than regular votes, then a new nomination shall be made.

SEC. 19. In balloting, should there be an equal division of the votes between any two candidates, the Grand Master shall be called on for his ballot. Should there be more ballots than voters, the ballot shall be declared void, and a new ballot taken.

Installation.

SEC. 20. The Grand Officers shall be installed at any time during the session that the Grand Lodge may determine. The present Grand Master, or any Past Grand Master, or the senior member present, shall install the Grand Master, who shall install the other Grand Officers.

SEC. 21. All Grand Officers shall be installed to serve until the next annual session, and the installation of their successors.

Vacancies.

SEC. 22. All vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or removal from office, shall be filled in the same manner as and for the residue of the term of the former incumbent, except as otherwise provided.

ARTICLE IV.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS.

SECTION I. At the close of the Annual Session the Grand Master, with the approval of the Grand Lodge, shall appoint the Standing Committees, as follows:

- 1st. Committee on the State of the Order.
- 2d. Committee on Legislation.
- 3d. Committee of Correspondence.
- 4th. Committee on Finance.
- 5th. Committee on Appeals.
- 6th. Committee on Stationery and Printing.

Committee on the State of the Order.

SEC. 2. The Committee on the State of the Order shall consist of five members, whose duty it shall be to examine the semi-annual returns of the subordinates and report thereon; also to consider and report on all resolutions pertaining to the general interests of the Order within this jurisdiction, which the Grand Lodge has not otherwise disposed of, and may so refer; and recommend such measures for the good of the Order as they from time to time shall deem proper.

Committee on Legislation.

SEC. 3. The Legislative Committee shall consist of three members, whose duty it shall be to

examine and report on the By-Laws and Rules of subordinate Lodges, when presented to the Grand Lodge for its approval, and on all propositions for amending the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, and the Constitution for subordinate Lodges, and to note and report upon such changes and rulings by the Sovereign Grand Lodge as may require action by this Grand Lodge.

Committee of Correspondence.

SEC. 4. The Committee of Correspondence shall consist of three Representatives, who are to examine all the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, and the proceedings of Sister Grand Bodies, and report upon such matters of general or special interest as will in their judgment contribute to the interest and welfare of the Lodges.

Committee on Finance.

SEC. 5. The Committee on Finance shall consist of three members, whose duty it shall be to examine and report on all accounts and claims against the Grand Lodge, previous to their being passed for payment by the Grand Lodge; to examine the accounts of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, annually, and to suggest such measures of finance as they may deem expedient.

Committee on Appeals.

SEC. 6. The Committee on Appeals shall be composed of nine members, whose duty it shall be to hear all appeals and grievances from Lodges, or members of Lodges, referred to them by the Grand Lodge, and report thereon such action as may be necessary; and any grievance between any subordinate and its members may, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, be referred to the

Grand Master, who, with said Committee, may hear and determine the same; from whose decision either party may appeal to the Grand Lodge. *Provided*, that in all matters at issue between a subordinate Lodge and one or more of its members, or between two or more subordinate lodges, the member or members of this Committee from such Lodge or Lodges shall not be entitled to give judgment in such matters at issue.

Committee on Stationery and Printing.

SEC. 7. The Committee on Stationery and Printing shall consist of two members, who, with the Grand Secretary, shall contract for and superintend all printing ordered by the Grand Lodge, and procure stationery for the same.

Committee on Credentials.

SEC. 8. At the opening of each Annual Session the Grand Master shall appoint a Committee on Credentials, to consist of three members, whose duty it shall be to examine and report to the Grand Lodge, without delay, on the election and eligibility of Representatives.

ARTICLE V.

Grand Representatives.

SECTION I. This Grand Body shall be represented in the Sovereign Grand Lodge by two Grand Representatives, who shall live in the State of Connecticut and be members of this Grand Lodge, Royal Purple members in good standing of an Encampment in good standing, also members in good standing of a Rebekah Lodge. They shall be designated as Junior and Senior Grand Representatives.

In good standing

SEC. 2. The Junior Grand Representative shall be elected annually to serve one year, and the Senior Grand Representative shall be elected bi-annually for a term of two years, both commencing at the regular session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge next succeeding their election.

SEC. 3. Each Grand Representative shall attend each session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, and represent the wishes of this Grand Lodge therein, and shall report all matters of importance in writing to the Grand Master within sixty days from the close of each session. In case of inability of any Grand Representative to attend the coming session of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, he shall notify the Grand Master without delay, who, with the advice of the Executive Council, shall appoint a substitute, who shall serve until the next session of this Grand Lodge, when an election shall be held to fill the vacancy. He or his substitute shall be furnished with a certificate of election in form required by Article IX, Sec. 4, of the Constitution of the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VI.

REMOVAL, SUSPENSION, AND EXPULSION.

SECTION 1. Any Grand Officer may be removed from his office for conduct unworthy of his standing in the Order, or for inattention to the duties of his office.

SEC. 2 Any member being guilty of conduct in derogation of the character of the Order, on being regularly convicted, shall be suspended or expelled from his seat as Representative, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. Every officer and member shall be entitled to a fair trial for any offense involving removal, suspension, or expulsion; but no mem-

ber shall be put on trial unless charges specifying his offense shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge in writing by a member thereof.

SEC. 4. When charges have been preferred against an officer or member in due form, they shall be referred to a Special Committee of five, (none of whom shall belong to the same subordinate Lodge as the accused), who shall immediately notify the parties; and after one month therefrom they shall meet and proceed to examine the evidence in the case, (all of which shall be in writing,) and make report thereon to the Grand Lodge. And it shall be the duty of said Committee to furnish the accused a copy of their report in writing, at least one month before the next regular session of the Grand Lodge, at which session the case shall be heard and decided. And every member so accused and tried shall be allowed to be heard in his own defense, when the case is before the Grand Lodge. *Provided*, that such member shall not be allowed to vote in the Grand Lodge during the time occupied in his trial.

SEC. 5. No officer or member shall officiate in the Grand Lodge during the time occupied in his trial, nor be present when the question is taken on the report or resolution offered by the Committee. Should the Grand Master be under charges, a Past Grand Master, if any be present, shall preside, while any question arising therefrom shall be under consideration.

ARTICLE VII.

SESSION AND VOTES.

SECTION I. The Grand Lodge shall hold its Annual Session on the third Wednesday of May; and Special Sessions at the call of the Grand

Master, by advice of the Executive Council. The sessions of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the city of New Haven unless otherwise ordered by a vote of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. At the *Annual Session* new members shall be admitted to their seats, and all manner of business within the power of the Grand Lodge may be transacted.

SEC. 3. At *Special Sessions* no business shall be transacted except that for which the session is called, which shall be distinctly stated in the notification to members.

Quorum.

SEC. 4. The Grand Lodge shall not be opened unless there be present a representation of not less than ten members from at least four subordinate Lodges.

Votes.

SEC. 5. All questions before the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of the votes given by the Representatives present; unless when the Representatives of two subordinates require the vote to be taken by representation; in which case it shall be determined by the majority of votes of Lodges present; *provided*, however, that no election of Grand Officers shall take place by representation, in any case; and each Representative shall vote on all questions before the Grand Lodge.

Ratio of Representation.

SEC. 6. Each Lodge which has duly reported to the Grand Lodge, at the Annual Session, *one hundred members* or less, in full membership, shall be entitled to *one vote*, and each Lodge which has reported a greater number shall be

entitled to *one additional vote* for every one hundred members; which votes shall always be ascertained by polling the Representatives of each subordinate separately. The ayes and nays shall always be recorded when the vote is taken by representations.

Dues.

SEC. 7. Each subordinate Lodge shall pay semi-annually to the Grand Lodge the sum of cents for each member in good standing. And in case the funds of the Grand Lodge shall fail, the deficiency shall be made up by assessment on the subordinates, according to the number of members in each.

Instruction.

SEC. 8. Subordinate Lodges may instruct their Representatives, in writing, upon any business before this Grand Lodge, and such instructions shall be binding upon them and govern their votes in the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENTS.

Constitution.

SECTION I. This Constitution, or any part thereof, shall not be altered, amended, suspended, or annulled, unless the proposition be made by the Representatives of two subordinates, in writing, at a regular session, which shall be referred to the next regular session, and entered on the record; and at the time of its determination it shall require two-thirds of the votes by representation, present, to adopt the same; but the Grand Lodge shall have power to reconsider any vote adopting an amendment to the Constitution at the same session at which it was adopted.

By-Laws.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge may adopt, or amend, at any regular session, such By-Laws and Rules of Order, for the government of itself and its subordinates, as two-thirds of the members present shall approve; to take effect after the close of the session at which they may be adopted; *provided*, such laws or rules shall not in anywise contravene this constitution, or violate the principles and usages of the Order.

By Laws

RELATING TO GRAND LODGE.

Time of Meeting.

1. The Grand Lodge shall convene at the Annual Session at 10 o'clock A. M.; and shall adjourn from time to time, until the business of the session is completed, unless otherwise specially ordered by a vote of the Grand Lodge.

Opening of Grand Lodge.

2. Within thirty minutes of the time of meeting, the presiding officer shall proceed to open the Grand Lodge, should there be a quorum present; and at the expiration of that time, should there not be a quorum, the members assembled may organize informally, and adjourn the meeting to such time as they may determine upon.

Absence of Officers.

3. In the absence of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Warden, the chair shall

be taken *pro tem* by the senior Past Grand Master present, if any, and if not, by any member of the Grand Lodge who may be called to it by a majority of the members present.

Prayer.

4. The sessions of the Grand Lodge shall be opened and closed with prayer.

REGALIA AND JEWELS OF GRAND LODGE.

Regalia.

5. The regalia of the Grand Officers and members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of scarlet collars trimmed with white lace or fringe.

Jewels.

6. The jewels of the officers of the Grand Lodge shall be of white metal, and as follows, viz:—

For Grand Master, *Sun*, with the scales of justice impressed or engraved thereon; for Deputy Grand Master, *Half Moon*; for Grand Warden, *Crossed Gavels*; for Grand Secretary, *Crossed Pens*; for Grand Treasurer, *Crossed Keys*; for Grand Marshal, *Baton*; for Grand Conductor, *Roman Swords*; for Grand Guardian, *Crossed Swords*. The jewel for a Past Grand Master is the *sun* with hand and heart; a Past Grand's jewel is a five-pointed *Star*.

Funeral Badge.

7. The funeral badge of the Grand Lodge shall be as prescribed by the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

RELATING TO SUBORDINATES.

8. Five or more brothers in good standing in the Order, residing within this jurisdiction, may petition the Grand Lodge, in writing, for a charter to constitute a subordinate Lodge; which petition must be accompanied by the sum of thirty dollars as a charter fee, and the withdrawal cards of the petitioners. Should a charter be granted, such Lodge shall receive the necessary charges, lectures, books of installation and instructions from the Grand Master, or whomsoever he may depute to institute the same, whose necessary expenses shall be borne by the Lodge so opened.

Seal.

9. Every subordinate Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a fair impression of its seal; and all official documents from such Lodges must bear the seal of the Lodge stamped thereon.

Certificates.

10. Members of an extinct Lodge, who were in good standing at the time of its dissolution, as may appear by the records of such Lodge, or who may have paid all arrearages then due to the Grand Lodge, shall, upon application to the Grand Secretary, receive a certificate, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, to enable him to make application for admission to membership in another Lodge; *provided* that no such certificate shall be given to a member of a suspended or expelled Lodge, unless ordered by a special vote of the Grand Lodge.

Funds of Subordinates.

11. The funds and properties of subordinate Lodges, having been raised for the purpose of

relieving sick and distressed brethren, and other charitable uses in the Order, are not liable to be divided in any manner among the members individually, or between one Lodge and another that may branch from it; but shall remain, for its legitimate purposes, the property of the Lodge, so long as its charter is unreclaimed, and five brothers remain in good standing in the Lodge; except when a Lodge shall number three hundred members, or more, in regular standing, when, upon application of such Lodge, the Grand Lodge may grant leave for the equal division of the members of such Lodge, and the funds thereof, under such restriction as the Grand Lodge may deem proper.

Public Processions.

12. No Lodge shall have a public procession without permission of the Grand Master, unless to attend a funeral of a brother; any Lodge may appear in regalia at a funeral, but the members shall wear the funeral badge, as prescribed by the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

13. Whenever a subordinate Lodge may desire to hold a procession in full regalia, application shall be made to the Grand Master, who may grant the request, provided two-thirds of the members present at a regular Lodge meeting shall have voted in favor thereof.

Official Visitations.

14. When the Grand Master or his Deputy shall visit a subordinate Lodge, officially, by request, his necessary expenses shall be paid by such subordinate; but when the Grand Master shall deem it necessary for the good of the Order to visit a subordinate, his expenses shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Can Belong to only one Lodge.

15. No brother shall be permitted to hold office in, or be a member of, two distinct subordinate Lodges, at the same time.

Emblems of the Order.

16. Any member of the Order, who shall have painted upon his sign any of the emblems of the Order, or otherwise exhibit them upon the same, or have them printed or engraved upon his business card, or expose them in any public place as a sign, shall, if persisted in after the Lodge of which he is a member gives him notice, be suspended or expelled, agreeably to a vote of the Lodge.

Refreshments.

17. All spirituous, vinous and malt liquors shall be strictly excluded from all Lodge rooms, ante-rooms or halls connected with or adjoining thereto, under the control of any Subordinate or degree Lodge on this jurisdiction.

Celebrations, etc

18. No Lodge shall hold any anniversary or other celebration, ball or party, where the regalia of the Order may be worn, or the name of the Order assumed, without the consent of the Grand Master first obtained in writing; such permission to be predicated only upon the direct promise, through the officers of the Lodge seeking the permission, that no intoxicating beverages of any kind shall be used on the occasion.

RULES OF ORDER.

I—ORDER OF BUSINESS.

After a quorum shall be ascertained to be present, the following shall be the order of business, viz:

1. The Grand Master shall request the brethren to clothe themselves in proper regalia, and direct the officers and members to take their respective stations, and shall then call up the Grand Lodge.
2. While standing, the Grand Chaplain shall address the Supreme Ruler of the Universe in prayer.
3. Proclamation shall be made by the Grand Marshal of the opening of the Grand Lodge.
4. The minutes of the last session shall be read, and if no objection be made to any part thereof, they shall stand approved without vote.
5. The Committee on Credentials shall report on the eligibility of members.
6. New members admitted and instructed.
7. The Grand Master and other Grand Officers shall report their official acts.
8. The Committee on the State of the Order shall report on the returns from the subordinates.
9. Appeals read and referred.
10. Petitions read and referred.
11. Communications read.

12. Financial accounts read and referred.
13. Report of Standing Committees, submitted.
14. Further reports of the Committee on the State of the Order, submitted.
15. Reports of Committee on Grievance, submitted.
16. Reports of Special Committees, by seniority, submitted.
17. Unfinished business acted upon, by priority.
18. New Business.

The Reports of the Committee on Credentials are privileged to take the priority to all other business, until disposed of. But the reports of all other committees, after having been submitted, will take their place in order among the unfinished business.

The order of business, as here arranged, may, at any time, for an occasion, be changed or dispensed with by a special two-thirds vote of the Grand Lodge.

II. OF DECORUM.

During the continuance of the meeting, the most decorous silence must be observed; the officers and members retaining their respective seats, and no one leaving the room without the permission of the Grand Master, nor entering without the consent of the Grand Warden.

No member shall converse or otherwise interrupt the business of the Grand Lodge, or refuse to obey the Chair.

Every officer and member shall be designated in debate, or otherwise, by his proper office or title, according to his standing in the Order.

No member shall be permitted to vote or speak unless clothed in regalia appropriate to his rank and station.

III.—OF THE CHAIR.

The Grand Master, while presiding, shall state every question coming before the Grand Lodge, and immediately before putting it to vote shall ask, "*Is the Grand Lodge ready for the question?*" when, should no member rise to speak, the Grand Master shall rise to take the question; and after he has risen, no member shall be permitted to speak upon it. He shall pronounce the votes and decisions of the Grand Lodge on all subjects. His decisions on questions of order shall be without debate, unless, entertaining doubt on the point, he invite it; and he shall have the privilege of speaking only on such questions from the Chair. When his decision has been appealed from, the question shall be put thus—"*Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Grand Lodge?*"

IV.—OF DEBATE.

Every member, when he speaks or offers a motion, shall be upstanding, and shall respectfully address the Chair, and when he has finished he shall sit down. While speaking, he shall confine himself to the question under debate, avoiding all personality and indecorous language, as well as any reflection upon the Grand Lodge or its members.

Should two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the Chair shall decide which shall be entitled to the floor.

No member shall disturb another in his speech unless to call him to order for words spoken.

If a member, while speaking, shall be called to order, at the request of the Chair he shall cease speaking and take his seat until the question of order is determined, when, if permitted, he may again proceed.

No member shall speak more than once on the same question until the members wishing to speak shall have had an opportunity to do so, nor more than twice, without permission of the Chair; but no member shall have the privilege of speaking more than once on a question of order, after appeal from the decision of the Chair.

V.—OF QUESTIONS AND VOTES.

When any communication, petition or memorial is presented, before it is read or any vote taken on it, a brief statement of its contents shall be made by the introducer or the Chair; and after it has been read, a brief notice of the purport shall be entered on the journal.

No motion shall be subject to action until seconded and stated by the Chair; and at the desire of any member it shall be reduced to writing.

When a blank is to be filled the question shall be taken first upon the highest sum or number and the longest or latest time proposed.

Any member may call for a division of a question when the sense will admit of it.

When a question is before the Grand Lodge, no motion shall be received, unless to adjourn, the previous question, to lie on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, to refer or to amend; and shall have precedence in the order herein arranged; the first three of which shall be decided without debate.

After any question has been decided, any two members who voted in the majority may, at the same or next succeeding meeting of the same session, move for a reconsideration thereof.

The previous question can be called for by two members, and if seconded by a majority shall be put in this form—“*Shall the main question be now put?*” If carried, the first question in order shall be immediately taken without further debate.

When one-fifth of the members present rise in favor of taking a question by ayes and nays, they shall be ordered to be so recorded.

Every member present shall vote on any question before the Grand Lodge, unless he is personally interested in the result, or has been excused by the Grand Lodge, or is otherwise incapacitated.

As amended at the sessions of the Grand Lodge, held in New Britain, May 20, 1908, and Hartford, May 19, 1909.

A true copy,

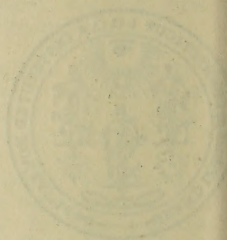
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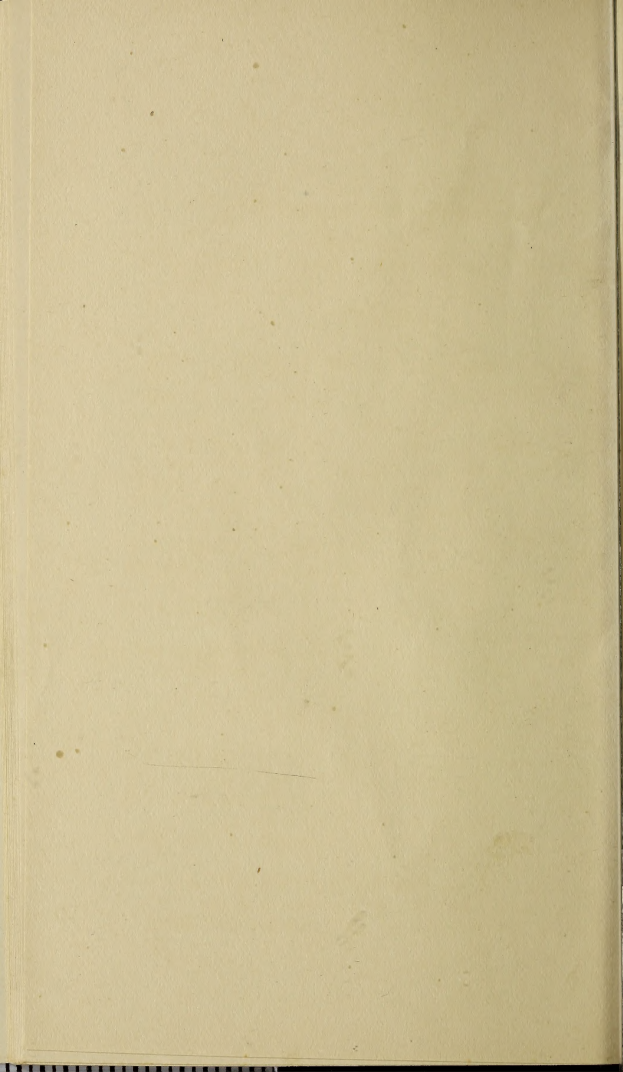
William S. Hutchison
Grand Secretary



It is hereby declared that the people of the State of New York do hereby ratify and confirm the Constitution of the State of New York, as amended, and do hereby declare that the same shall be the supreme law of the State.

William H. Mitchell
Governor





Telegraph Cipher and Key

ADOPTED BY THE SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE, 1895-

1899-1907.

For use in transmitting messages by telegraph by all subordinate lodges of the I. O. O. F.

In order to avoid frauds and imposters telegraph the Lodge in which the person applying for aid claims membership. Special care should be used in cases where applicants cannot produce either an Official Certificate or a Visiting Card. *In all cases of doubt use "Telegraphic Cipher and Key" before giving any assistance.*

HOUSE.—Is in our city holding a Visiting Card from your Lodge, and asking of us financial assistance.

FUNDS.—Shall we aid him and draw on you to the extent of \$— ?

CASH.—Is in our city asking financial assistance, and claims membership in your Lodge in good standing.

RIVER.—Has your Lodge a member in good standing by the name of ——— ?

BOAT.—He is an expelled member and has not been in good standing for ———.

WHITE.—We don't know any such party, and he does not belong to our Lodge.

GRIP.—Draw on us for amount of expenses incurred.

CAUTION.—Look out for a fraud named ———

SECRETARY.—He has a fraudulent Card.

FINAL.—A member of your Lodge died here.

BLACK.—He is a fraud, and if he has a Card or other papers from this Lodge they are forgeries.

RED.—Holding a Visiting Card from your Lodge, died here.

GREEN.—Wire instructions to us at once as to the disposition of his remains.

YELLOW.—Is in our city and very sick. Claims membership in your Lodge. Shall we give him attendance on your account?

PURPLE.—We think best to bury him there.

LODGE.—Forward remains to this place by

REGALIA.—Assist him, and we will honor draft to the extent of \$——.

HELP.—Will your Lodge pay nurse hire, and how much per day?

BENEFIT.—What sick and funeral benefit do you pay?

WIDOW.—Wife or child of a deceased member of your Lodge is in the city asking assistance. Shall we draw on you to the extent of \$——?

ROCK.—A member of our Lodge is in your city needing assistance His name and address are

Constitution for Subordinate Lodges

PREAMBLE.

For the purpose of effecting uniformity in the administration of the privileges, honors, and benefits of Odd Fellowship within this jurisdiction, the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the State of Connecticut ordains the following Constitution for each of the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE I.

OF POWERS.

How Constituted.

SECTION I. This Lodge shall consist of at least five members, including one qualified to preside at its meetings, and shall be hailed and entitled,Lodge, No., I. O. O. F of Connecticut, holding a legal and unreclaimed Charter or Warrant, granted or sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the State of Connecticut. It cannot voluntarily surrender its charter or dissolve so long as five members in good standing object thereto.

Seal.

SEC. 2. This Lodge shall have a seal, adapted to making embossed impressions upon paper, and all official instruments and communications shall be so sealed therewith. The seal shall not be used to impress more than one thickness of paper at the same time. When a seal is adopted, or when any change or alteration is made therein, a fair impression thereof shall be at once transmitted to the Grand Secretary.

By-Laws.

SEC. 3. This Lodge may adopt By-Laws and resolutions from time to time, as may be deemed expedient, provided they do not conflict with this Constitution, the laws or Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut, or those of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, or the principles of the Order. When a By-Law is legally before the Lodge for consideration and action, amendments to the same can be offered and acted upon at the same meeting.

SEC. 4. On the adoption of any By-Laws, or amendments to a By-Law, duplicate copies, properly authenticated by the seal of the Lodge, and attested by the Secretary, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary for examination by the Legislative Committee, and shall not be in force unless and until approved by said Committee; nor shall any By-Laws, or amendment thereof, be adopted unless the same has been submitted to the Lodge, in writing, at a previous regular meeting previous to action being taken. When printed, an attested copy shall be deposited with the Grand Secretary.

Forfeiture of Charter.

SEC. 5. Should this Lodge fail to hold its meetings for six months, or fail to make its returns, as required by the second section of Article IX, for one year, it shall thereby forfeit its charter and become extinct; and it shall become the duty of the last installed officers to transmit or surrender to the Grand Master (or such brother as may be appointed by him to receive them), the charter, books, papers, furniture, funds, and all other property of the Lodge, which shall become the property of the Grand Lodge.

Quorum.

SEC. 6. Five members of this Lodge, including one qualified to preside, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE II.

OF MEMBERSHIP.

Qualifications.

SECTION I. No person shall be initiated into this Lodge except he be a free white male of good moral character, who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who believes in a Supreme Being, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe. No saloonkeeper, bartender, or professional gambler shall be eligible.

Fee.

SEC. 2. No person shall be initiated into this Lodge, or become a member thereof, except by transfer from another Lodge, until he shall have paid therefor such regular fee (not to be less than five dollars), as the Lodge shall have prescribed.

Place.

SEC. 3. Candidates for membership may be admitted in any Lodge in the town where they reside, or in a Lodge in an adjoining town, if the Lodge room in said adjoining town is nearer or more convenient to their residence. Lodges taking (without permission) members belonging to the jurisdiction of other Lodges must pay the wronged Lodge the initiation fee and upon demand the dues received from the member.

No person shall be initiated in this Lodge who resides in any other town of this State where a Lodge or Lodges exist, without an official permit from some Lodge in said town waiving jurisdiction. A person living in a town in this State

where there is no Lodge may be eligible for membership in any Lodge in the State. Citizens and residents of other States are not eligible without a permit from the Grand Master.

Application.

SEC. 4. Every person wishing to become a member of this Lodge must himself sign an application therefor, in which he shall state his age, residence, business, and condition of health, and be recommended by a member of this Lodge, who shall sign his name to the application as recommender.

Recommender.

SEC. 5. No member shall recommend a person for membership unless he is personally well acquainted with the candidate and believes him worthy of admission; and any member violating this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be expelled from the Order.

Investigation and Report.

SEC. 6 Each application for membership, properly made and presented to the Lodge shall be referred to a committee of three members (two of whom shall be appointed by the N. G. and one by the V. G.), who shall severally carefully investigate the character, standing, and health of the applicant, and at a succeeding regular meeting the committee, or a majority of them, shall make a written report thereon to the Lodge.

An application for membership can be withdrawn before the report of the committee is read to the Lodge, but not after.

Ballot and Election.

SEC. 7. When a report is made, as provided in the preceding section, the Noble Grand shall immediately cause the application to be balloted upon

unless the Lodge shall vote to postpone the ballot until the next regular meeting, when the ballot shall certainly be taken. The balloting shall be by ball ballots, and should there be less than three black balls the applicant shall be declared elected; but if three or more appear he shall be declared rejected. He must present himself for membership within three months after notification or the election shall be null and void.

Reconsideration.

SEC. 8. When all the members who have cast ballots against an applicant for membership, who has been rejected, voluntarily make a motion for a reconsideration of the ballot, it may be reconsidered; and the vote upon the motion to reconsider shall be by ball ballots, and if the vote is unanimously in favor of it, the reconsideration shall be had, whereupon the application shall lie over till the next regular meeting, when the ballot shall again be taken, and if it then results unanimously for the applicant, he shall be elected; but if one or more black balls appear he shall be rejected. In no case shall a reconsideration be had, except upon the voluntary motion of all those who cast adverse ballots; and never more than one reconsideration in the same case shall be allowed. And provided, always, that such reconsideration shall be so moved within four weeks next succeeding the rejection. In all cases where a candidate for membership has been elected, but subsequent to his election and prior to his initiation, the Lodge shall become satisfied that he is unworthy, it shall be competent for the Lodge to annul such election and declare it void by a two-thirds vote of the members present, after which a new ballot shall be had as specified in the preceding section.

Reinstatement.

SEC. 9. All applications for reinstatement by suspended members, or by those who have been expelled, shall be treated in every respect as other applications for membership, except that when balloted upon, in case two-thirds of the members present cast their ballots in favor of the reinstatement, the applicant shall be declared elected. Provided, that no one who has been expelled shall be reinstated without the consent of the Grand Lodge. (See Art. IV, Sec. 1.)

Admission by Card.

SEC. 10. A non-affiliated Odd Fellow wishing to become a member of this Lodge shall make application as provided in Section 4, and shall present therewith his Withdrawal Card, or Dismissal Certificate, or Certificate of Resignation, from the Lodge of which he was last a member, or, in case said Lodge has ceased to exist, a certificate from the Grand Secretary of the jurisdiction in which said Lodge was located.

If the applicant can prove himself in the work of the Order he may be received without initiation; but if not, he must be initiated; and no such applicant shall take rank higher in this Lodge than he can prove himself, without receiving his degrees and paying therefor, as if he had never before had them. The application shall be accompanied by such membership fee (not less than five dollars) as the Lodge shall have prescribed.

Rejection.

SEC. 11. No applicant can have his application withdrawn after it has been reported upon by a committee; nor shall any applicant for membership through initiation, who has been rejected by any other Lodge, apply in this, within one year

from the time of such rejection; or, if rejected in this Lodge, he shall not again apply within six months thereafter.

Notice to Other Lodges.

SEC. 12. When an applicant for initiation has been rejected, notice thereof shall be sent without delay to all Lodges whose place of meeting is within twenty miles of this Lodge.

Non-Beneficial Members.

SEC. 13. Non-affiliated Odd Fellows who have been regularly initiated in the Order and have retained membership therein for at least five consecutive years, and who, at the time of making application for reinstatement or membership, shall be over fifty years of age, and who are not under expulsion for cause, may be admitted to membership in this Lodge, as non-beneficial members, upon such terms as its By-Laws may prescribe.

Transfer of Membership.

SEC. 14. A member of the Order in possession of an Official Certificate or Visiting Card, changing his residence from the territorial jurisdiction of his Lodge to the territorial jurisdiction of another, and desiring to unite with a Lodge at his new place of residence, upon making application for membership, accompanied by his Official Certificate or Visiting Card, showing his dues paid in advance and being elected, as provided by local law upon notice being sent by the Secretary to his Lodge, said Lodge shall, unless charges are pending against him, without ballot and without fee, issue a Transfer Certificate and send the same at once to the Secretary sending for same; and upon the receipt of the Transfer Certificate, the member shall be entitled to sign the Constitution and become a member of his new Lodge without

the payment of any admission fee; provided, that if a physician's certificate is required, he must pay the expense of the same.

The issuing of a Transfer Certificate shall sever membership in the Lodge issuing it, provided, that if the member become sick or disabled, or should die within four weeks of its date and before completing membership by signing the Constitution of his new Lodge, then said Transfer Certificate shall be cancelled and said member shall retain his beneficial standing in his old Lodge, the same as though no Transfer Certificate had been issued.

Provided, further, that a brother, desiring to receive the advantage of the preceding proviso, must pay his dues four weeks in advance of the date of his Transfer Certificate.

Commencement of Membership.

SEC. 15. Membership in this Lodge shall commence when the candidate signs the Constitution, and dues shall be charged from that time. No one can be considered a member until he has paid the admission fee and signed the Constitution.

ARTICLE III.

OF CARDS AND CERTIFICATES.

Visiting Cards.

SECTION I. Any member who is free from charges on the books of the Lodge, and in good standing, may, on application to the Lodge, receive a Visiting Card by paying in advance the dues which would accrue against him and become payable within the time for which such Card is granted, and paying therefor such amount as the By-Laws shall direct; and when the time has expired for which such Card was granted it shall be returned to the Lodge. Cards must be dated the

time they are granted and cannot be granted for a longer time than one year.

Withdrawal Cards.

SEC. 2. When any member desires to withdraw his membership from the Lodge, he may make application at a regular meeting; and if he is free from all charges on the books, and a majority of the members present agree thereto (the vote to be taken by ball ballot), he shall be entitled to a Withdrawal Card, which dissolves his connection with the Lodge.

Certificates of Resignation.

SEC. 3. Upon payment of all dues and not being otherwise disqualified, a member may tender his written resignation and be entitled to receive from the Secretary under seal a certificate that he has resigned his membership while in good standing.

Annuling Cards.

SEC. 4. This Lodge has power to recall or annul, for good cause, any card granted by it.

Relief on Card.

SEC. 5. When relief is extended to a brother, who is not a member of this Lodge, the amount thereof shall be endorsed upon his Card, and the Lodge to which he belongs notified thereof.

Dismissal Certificates.

SEC. 6. Any member of this Lodge suspended or dropped for non-payment of dues may, upon proper application and the payment of one dollar, at the discretion of the Lodge by a majority vote of the members present, receive a Dismissal Certificate before five years have expired; and if it is to be used to regain membership in another jurisdiction, it shall be granted without vote.

After Five Years.

SEC. 7. Any member suspended or dropped for non-payment of dues, after five years' suspension, wishing to join a Lodge in this or another jurisdiction, shall be entitled to receive, and the Lodge shall grant, upon proper application, a Dismissal Certificate upon the receipt of one dollar.

Refusal to Reinstate.

SEC. 8. Should the Lodge refuse to reinstate a member suspended or dropped for non-payment of dues, he shall be entitled to receive and the Lodge upon proper application shall grant a Dismissal Certificate upon the receipt of one dollar at any time without vote.

When Obligatory.

SEC. 9. In cases where the law makes it obligatory to grant Dismissal Certificates to brothers suspended or dropped for non-payment of dues, it shall be the duty of the Noble Grand and Recording Secretary to issue such certificates upon proper application in open Lodge, and payment of the fee, without a vote of the Lodge.

ARTICLE IV.

OF DUES AND BENEFITS.

Dues and Arrears.

SECTION 1. The regular contributions of each member of the Lodge for dues, as well as the amounts for widow and orphan fund, education fund, watching assessments, and funeral tax, shall be determined by the By-Laws, and the dues shall not be less than six dollars a year, and whenever any member fails to discharge his indebtedness to the Lodge within the time prescribed by said By-Laws, which in no case shall be more than thirteen weeks, he is in arrears and not entitled to

benefits; and the Lodge shall suspend all members who for twelve months neglect or refuse payment of the sums so determined; and any member so suspended shall, upon reinstatement within one year from the time of his suspension, before he can again be admitted, be required to pay into the Lodge the amount of one year's dues; but after one year he shall pay for reinstatement the same fee as that charged for an initiate of the same age.

Sick Benefits.

SEC. 2. Every member qualified as required by the By-Laws shall in case of being disabled by sickness or bodily injury from following his usual occupation or otherwise earning a livelihood, provided such disability be not the result of his own vice or immorality, be entitled to and receive a weekly benefit of not less than two dollars during the continuance of the disability, except that no benefit need be paid for the first week of sickness. Provided, however, that when a member shall have received one full year's benefit, the benefit thereafter to such member may be fixed at not less than one dollar per week. A member of the Order becoming infirm from old age, and thereby being rendered incapable from following his usual occupation, is not entitled to weekly benefits merely on account of infirmity.

Funeral Expense.

SEC. 3. This Lodge shall provide in its By-Laws, that upon the death of a member, qualified as provided in the By-Laws, a sum not less than thirty dollars (or such part thereof as may be necessary) shall be appropriated and used to defray the funeral expenses incurred, and for no other purpose; provided, if said expenses shall have been paid by a relative or friend of the

deceased, then the amount so expended, in no case to exceed the amount appropriated, shall be paid to such relative or friend. In the absence of competent relations, the Noble Grand shall take charge of the funeral, and render an account of the disbursements.

Funeral Benefits.

SEC. 4. This Lodge may provide in its By-Laws for the appropriation of a sum, which in case of the death of a member, qualified as provided in the By-Laws, shall be paid as funeral benefit, to the widow, orphans under the age of twenty-one years, or dependent relatives, or relatives upon whom the deceased was dependent at the time of death; but such benefit shall not be paid to any other person or organization.

Benefits to be Voted.

SEC. 5. The funeral and sick benefits shall be regulated by the By-Laws of the Lodge: and all orders drawn for them shall be by vote of the Lodge.

Beneficial or Non-Beneficial when Sick.

SEC. 6. A member in arrears (and not entitled to benefits), at the commencement of a sickness cannot become beneficial during that sickness, so as to draw benefits for the period of said sickness, or any part thereof

A member beneficial at the commencement of a sickness cannot be deprived of benefits during that sickness. It shall be the duty of the Lodge to deduct from benefits payable to a member whatever sums may be due to the Lodge from such member.

Veteran Non-Contributing Members.

SEC. 7. After a brother has become sixty years of age and has been a contributing member

for twenty-five consecutive years, his name shall not be dropped from the role by virtue of his being more than one year in arrears for non-payment of dues, but he shall be retained as a non-contributing member, and as such shall be entitled to the password and fellowship of Lodges. Such non-contributing member shall have all the privileges of active members, except benefits, and subordinate Lodges shall not be compelled to pay per capita tax on such non-contributing members. Such non-contributing members may be reinstated in the manner as provided for the reinstatement of dropped members by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Lodge.

ARTICLE V.

OF DEGREES.

Application and Ballot.

SECTION 1. Any member in good standing wishing to take the degrees shall apply or cause an application to be made, and a ballot for all of the degrees may be taken thereon at a regular meeting; and if three or more black balls appear against any candidate he shall be declared rejected, and shall not be permitted to renew his application until the expiration of three months from the time of said ballot.

Obtaining in Other Lodges.

SEC. 2. Whenever a member wishes to receive the degrees in another Lodge, or in a degree Lodge, he shall ask permission, or cause permission to be asked, of this Lodge, to so receive them. If this Lodge grants such permission and he is duly elected as provided in Section 1, a certificate shall be given him, signed by the Noble Grand and Secretary, and attested by the seal of the Lodge, showing that he has applied for such

degrees, and that he was by ballot of the Lodge, authorized to receive hem, that he has paid therefor, and requesting that they be conferred. And he shall pay for such degrees before receiving said certificate.

Degree Fees.

SEC. 3. Not more than two degrees shall be conferred on a brother at the same meeting, unless the most urgent necessity be proven; and no degrees shall be conferred until the candidate has paid the amount required, which shall not be less than two dollars each.

ARTICLE VI.

OF OFFICERS.

Elective.

SECTION 1. The elective officers of this Lodge shall consist of a Noble Grand, a Vice Grand, a Recording Secretary, a Financial Secretary, a Treasurer, and when deemed expedient, a Lodge Physician.

Appointed.

SEC. 2. The appointed officers shall consist of a Warden, a Conductor, an Outside Guardian, an Inside Guardian, a Right Supporter to the Noble Grand, a Left Supporter to the Noble Grand, a Right Scene Supporter, a Left Scene Supporter, and a Chaplain, all of whom shall be appointed by the Noble Grand; also a Right Supporter to the Vice Grand, and a Left Supporter to the Vice Grand, who shall be appointed by the Vice Grand.

Nominations.

SEC. 3. Nominations for the elective officers shall be made only on the two regular meetings immediately preceding that of the election, except when the nominees for an office all decline, and except as provided in the next section.

Election.

SEC. 4. Each elected officer shall be voted for separately and by paper ballot; and each must receive, to be elected, a majority of all the votes given, including blanks; and all votes given for persons not in nomination as well as blanks, shall be counted as blanks; and in case in any ballot there shall be a majority of blanks cast, then new nominations for that office shall be made.

Time of Election and Installation.

SEC. 5. Officers shall be elected at the last regular meeting in the term, and installed within three weeks succeeding their election, to serve one term. Except that, if the Lodge deem it expedient, they may elect and install a Financial Secretary to serve for one year.

Meetings occurring on legal holidays may be by vote omitted; and if a legal holiday occurs on the last meeting night in the term and such meeting is by vote omitted, the elections shall occur at the preceding meeting.

Removal.

SEC. 6. Any officer absenting himself from the Lodge for three successive regular meetings, except in case of sickness, or any officer, for misconduct, or neglect as such, may be removed by vote of two-thirds of the members present, at the next regular meeting after a resolution therefor has been offered in the Lodge.

Vacancies

SEC. 7. Vacancies in office may be filled at any regular meeting, by election or appointment, as the case may be, to serve the residue of the term, and officers so serving shall be entitled to the full honors of the term.

Eligibility.

SEC. 8. No member shall be eligible to any elective office unless he shall have attained to the Scarlet Degree and is free from charges on the books. Any officer shall be eligible to re-election unless otherwise disqualified

Previous Service.

SEC. 9. No member shall be installed as Noble Grand unless he has served a term as Vice Grand, or the last of a term to fill a vacancy; nor as Vice Grand unless he has served a term in some office other than Trustee: except for the first two terms, when any Scarlet Degree member shall be eligible. Provided, that any Scarlet Degree member may be eligible, if all qualified members refuse to serve, and a dispensation be granted by the Grand Master previous to the election. Service in office in any other Lodge is qualifying in this, provided the member has a certificate to that effect, under seal of a Lodge in good standing.

Duties.

SEC. 10. The duties of the various officers shall be as laid down in the charges of their office, and as specified by this Constitution and by the By-Laws of the Lodge, and in the ritual and work of the Order.

Representatives.

SEC. 11. This Lodge shall, in the month of April, annually, elect by ballot, from among the Past Grands in good standing in the Lodge, such number of them as the Lodge may determine, to represent it in the Grand Lodge, and to serve for one year from the third Wednesday of May succeeding their election; and the Secretary shall forward to the Grand Secretary duplicates of the credentials of such representatives, on or before

the first Wednesday in May succeeding their election.

Every representative shall, at the time of his election, be furnished with a certificate in the following form, viz:

— Lodge, No.—, I. O. O. F.

To the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F.

of the State of Connecticut:

This is to certify that P. G. ——— has been duly elected a representative of this Lodge in your Body to serve for one year from the third Wednesday of May, 19 .

In testimony whereof I here-
unto affix my hand and the
seal of our Lodge, this —
day of ———, 19

Attest: ———, *Secretary*.

[L. S.]

Which certificate must be presented when the representative offers himself for admission. This Lodge may instruct its representatives, in writing, upon any business before the Grand Lodge, and such instructions shall be binding upon them and govern their votes in the Grand Lodge.

Grand Lodge Degree.

SEC. 12. The Secretary shall furnish to any Past Grand of this Lodge in good standing, whether elected a representative or not, upon application therefor in May preceding the third Wednesday, a certificate to enable him to obtain the Grand Lodge degree and membership in the Grand Lodge, which certificate shall state that the brother is a Past Grand and in good standing in the Lodge.

Trustees.

SEC. 13. There shall be a Board of Trustees which shall consist of three members, one of

whom shall be elected annually by ballot at the last regular meeting in December for the term of three years. It shall be the duty of the Trustees to deposit and invest the funds of the Lodge in the name of the Lodge and to withdraw and transfer them in accordance with a vote of the Lodge. They shall exercise a general supervision of the money affairs of the Lodge, and report once in six months on all matters appertaining to the financial affairs of the Lodge and include therein a complete inventory of all Lodge property.

ARTICLE VII.

OF PENALTIES AND TRIALS.

Penalties.

SECTION 1. Any member who shall violate any of the principles or laws of the Order, or offend against the Constitution or By-Laws of this Lodge, shall be fined, reprimanded, suspended, or expelled, as the By-Laws may direct.

Entitled to Trial.

SEC. 2. Every member shall be entitled to a fair trial for any offense (except non-payment of dues) involving fine, reprimand, suspension, or expulsion. No member shall be put on trial unless charges duly specifying the offense, so as to fully apprise him of the nature thereof, and to enable him to prepare his defense, shall be submitted to the Lodge, in writing, and signed by two or more brothers of the Order.

Trial Committee.

SEC. 3. When charges have been preferred against a member, in proper form, they shall be referred to a Special Committee of five members, who shall, without unnecessary delay, summon the parties to proceed to the investigation of the offense or offenses charged.

Trial Notice.

SEC. 4. When charges have been preferred against a member, in regular form, a copy thereof, together with a summons and a notice of the time and place of meeting of the committee appointed to investigate the same, shall be served, at least two weeks before trial, upon the accused brother, or left in a sealed wrapper, legibly addressed to him on the outside, at his residence or where he was last known to reside, if within the town where the Lodge is located. If he is absent from, or resides out of town, then they shall be directed to him to his proper address, if it be known; if not, to the last place where he was known to reside, and left at the post office in a registered letter, postage prepaid. And a certificate of the time and manner of service shall be made by the member serving the copy and notice, which shall be filed with, and become one of, the papers in the case.

Contempt.

SEC. 5. If the accused, after actual personal receipt of notice, refuses or neglects to appear and stand trial at the time and place designated, the committee shall report him guilty of contempt of the Lodge, which report shall be conclusive, and the punishment shall be expulsion.

Trial.

SEC. 6. At the time and place appointed, the committee shall meet and try the case. They may at their discretion during the trial adjourn to another time or place. They shall keep full minutes of the evidence and of the proceedings and report the same to the Lodge with their verdict. If a witness be a member of the Order, he shall give his evidence on the honor of an Odd Fellow; if he be not a member, then on oath or

affirmation; and the minutes must state that such obligation or oath was administered. The accused may appear by council, but the counsel must be an Odd Fellow in good standing.

At the conclusion of the trial, the committee shall make a full report to the Lodge, including the facts as found by them, and give their verdict in the matter, stating whether or not, in their judgment, the charges have in whole or in part been sustained, and, if in part, in what part. And if the committee find that an offense charged has been committed, which is cognizable by the Order, and are convinced of the necessity of fining, reprimanding, suspending, or expelling, the member, they shall submit a motion in writing, in connection with their report, for that purpose, to the Lodge for action.

Bill of Exceptions.

SEC. 7. Upon the report being made, notice thereof shall forthwith be given by the Secretary, to the party against whom the verdict is rendered, and he shall have two weeks in which to file exceptions with the Secretary. If a bill of exceptions to the report of the committee or to any of the proceedings in the case is filed, the Lodge, at the next regular session, shall consider and determine its merits; and if the Lodge sustains the exceptions, may refer the whole subject back to the same or another committee, or may grant a new trial.

Action of Lodge.

SEC. 8. If no exceptions are filed within the two weeks, or if exceptions are filed and are not considered well taken, the Lodge shall proceed to determine by paper ballot, whether the implicated brother be present or not, first to pronounce its judgment in the nature of a verdict, and second, if they pronounce him guilty, to affix the penalty.

During the ballots the accused shall withdraw from the Lodge room. The Lodge shall be fully competent to vary the penalty from that recommended by the committee. A vote of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to expel or suspend, but a majority vote shall be sufficient to determine a fine or reprimand. If the Lodge shall determine to suspend the member, it shall immediately proceed to fix the duration of suspension, the vote being taken upon the various times proposed in the order of their length (first upon the longest time, etc.) until two-thirds of the members present agree upon a time.

Appeal to Grand Lodge.

SEC. 9. An appeal from the judgment of the Lodge, for any informality or want of fairness, may be taken in writing by the accused, at any time within two weeks thereafter, to the Grand Lodge, and if no such appeal is taken, the judgment of the Lodge shall be final. An appeal shall not be considered taken until written notice thereof, stating the grounds of such appeal, has been served upon the Lodge. When an appeal has been taken, the Secretary shall forthwith forward to the Grand Secretary a full and accurate copy of the charges, minutes, and report of the committee, a transcript from the Lodge records of all the votes and actions of the Lodge bearing upon the matter, and copies of any and all documents and papers of whatsoever kind, in possession of the Lodge which have had any connection with the proceedings.

New Trial.

SEC. 10. If the Grand Lodge upon appeal direct a new trial, the Lodge shall begin anew as in case of new charges; and on the new trial any directions or instructions of the Grand Lodge shall be faithfully heeded.

Reprimand.

SEC. 11. When a member shall be subject to the penalty of reprimand, he shall be summoned to attend at some regular meeting, to be fixed by the Lodge, to be reprimanded from the chair of the Noble Grand and until he so attend and be reprimanded, he shall be suspended from all the benefits and privileges of membership.

Notice to Other Lodges.

SEC. 12. Any brother having been suspended (except for non-payment of dues) or expelled, notice thereof shall be sent to all Lodges in this jurisdiction, and to the Grand Secretary, and to the Grand Scribe of the Grand Encampment.

Members Under Charges.

SEC. 13. A member under charges shall not be entitled to a Card, or if he has one it may be revoked, during the pendency of the charges; and when the charges bear upon the right to benefits, payment thereof shall be suspended until final decision. An officer under charges shall be disqualified from performing any official duty which has any relation to the charges.

Change of Venue.

SEC. 14. Whenever charges have been preferred against a member of this Lodge, and he is of the opinion that by reason of prejudice, or for any other good reason, he cannot obtain a fair and impartial trial in this Lodge, he may petition the Grand Master, setting forth the reasons of his petition, and asking that some other Lodge may be designated and requested to appoint a committee to hear and determine the charges.

Stay of Proceedings.

SEC. 15. An application for a change of venue

shall act as a stay of proceedings after notice has been given to this Lodge, in writing, that such application has been made, and no further action shall be taken by this Lodge until the question of venue has been determined. And when a change of venue has been ordered, the Secretary of this Lodge shall make and deliver to the Secretary of the Lodge designated by the Grand Master to try the cause, a copy of all votes, records, resolutions, and papers pertaining or relating to the charges against the accused.

Foreign Trial Committee.

SEC. 16. When the trial of charges pending against a member of another Lodge have been by the Grand Master transferred to this Lodge, a trial committee shall be appointed by this Lodge, and said committee shall issue the proper notices to the parties, appointing the time and place of the trial, and shall by its chairman issue summonses to the accused brother and to the witnesses who are to testify in the cause.

Duty of the Committee and Lodge.

SEC. 17. The foreign trial committee shall take all the evidence in writing, and shall report its findings in the matter, together with all the evidence in the case, to the Secretary of the Lodge to which the accused belongs, and shall recommend such punishment as in its judgment the offense requires. If the committee finds the accused guilty, the Lodge shall, within two weeks after the filing of said report, proceed to inflict the proper penalty provided by the laws of the Order.

ARTICLE VIII.

ON ENCAMPMENT RELATIONS.

Certificate of Standing.

SECTION I. The Secretary shall furnish to any

Scarlet Degree member in good standing, who may apply therefor, an official certificate of his standing and rank in the Lodge, to enable him to connect himself with the Encampment branch of the Order.

To Give Notice.

SEC. 2. The Secretary shall keep a record of all such members of this Lodge as have been or may be officially certified to it by any Encampment as members thereof; and whenever any such members shall be suspended or expelled, or take a Withdrawal Card, or sever his connection with the Lodge, the Secretary shall immediately notify the Encampment to which such member belongs, of such circumstances and the date thereof.

Deposit of Card.

SEC. 3. Any brother becoming a member of this Lodge by transfer or by deposit of Withdrawal Card from another Lodge, may upon his own statement that he is a member of a certain Encampment, cause the Secretary of this Lodge to transmit to said Encampment a certificate that said brother has become, and is a member of this Lodge.

ARTICLE IX.

OF TERMS AND REPORTS.

Terms.

SECTION 1. Regular semi-annual terms shall commence on the first regular meetings in January and July, except where a Lodge is granted permission to hold yearly terms, when the term shall commence on the first meeting in January, and all terms shall end on the day on which the succeeding ones commence.

Reports.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the officers of

of this Lodge, semi annually, at the close of each term or six months' period, in January and July, to prepare and transmit to the Grand Secretary a full report of the work for the preceding six months, in accordance with the blanks furnished by the Grand Secretary, and authenticate the same by their signatures and seal of the Lodge. The report shall be accompanied by whatever amount may be due to the Grand Lodge. Unless the completed report and the dues are forwarded to the Grand Secretary within thirty days from the end of said six months' period, the Lodge shall pay to the Grand Secretary, for the use of the Grand Lodge, five dollars a week for each week of such delinquency from and after said thirty days.

ARTICLE X.

OF VARIOUS MATTERS.

Appeals.

SECTION I. Any member believing that any action of this Lodge is contrary to the laws of the Order, or to the laws of the Grand Lodge, or to the Constitution or By-Laws of this Lodge, may, within two weeks thereafter present to the Lodge his written appeal from such action to the D. D. G. M. of the district, stating the action appealed from and the grounds of his appeal, which shall be entered in full upon the records of the Lodge and placed on file; whereupon the Secretary shall, without delay, transmit to that officer a certified copy of the records of the Lodge, under seal, and all papers referring to the appeal, with an account of said action, and the Lodge shall await the D. D. G. M.'s decision thereon, which shall be rendered in writing, with a return of all papers, at the next regular meeting. When the decision has been rendered, the Lodge, or any member thereof, may appeal there-

from to the Grand Master, within two weeks, whereupon the Secretary shall, without delay, transmit to that officer a like certified copy and account of said action, and the decision of the D. D. G. M. thereon, and the Lodge shall await the decision of the Grand Master, which shall be binding upon the Lodge until the next regular session of the Grand Lodge, and thereafter unless the decision of the Grand Master is reversed or qualified by the Grand Lodge. After a decision from the Grand Master has been received by the Lodge, the Lodge, or any member thereof, may appeal therefrom to the next regular session of the Grand Lodge, by sending to the Grand Master written notice of such appeal, and if the appellant be a member only, by notifying the Secretary of the Lodge. When such an appeal from the Grand Master is taken, he will present the papers upon which his decision is rendered, to the Grand Lodge, together with his decision, for their action. In case there shall be no D. D. G. M. of the district, or in case of his absence from the district, the appeal from the Lodge may, in the first instance, be made directly to the Grand Master. When an appeal is taken to the D. D. G. M., or to the Grand Master, the member making the appeal, or the Lodge, may prepare and transmit to the officer to whom the appeal is taken, in the form of a letter, an argument upon the questions of law involved in the appeal.

This section shall have no reference to questions arising upon trials and actions of Lodges on charges, which are governed by Article VII herein.

Public Procession.

SEC. 2. This Lodge shall have no public procession without permission from the Grand Master, unless to attend the funeral of a brother,

SEC. 3. Whenever this Lodge may desire to hold a procession in full regalia (except to attend the funeral of a brother), application shall be made to the Grand Master for permission, provided two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting shall have voted in favor thereof.

Celebrations, Etc.

SEC. 4. This Lodge shall hold no public anniversary or other celebration, ball, or party, where the regalia of the Order may be worn, or the name of the Order assumed, without the consent of the Grand Master first obtained in writing, such permission to be predicated only upon the direct promise, through the officers of the Lodge, that no intoxicating beverages of any kind shall be used on the occasion, and all applications for such purposes shall be in the following form:

To the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F.:

Dear Sir and Brother:

——— Lodge, No.———, desires to hold a.....

on the —— of —— 19 ; and respectfully asks your consent thereto.

And we hereby promise that no intoxicating beverages of any kind shall be used on said occasion, nor will we resort to any schemes of raffles, lotteries, or gift enterprises, or schemes of hazard or chance of any kind, as a means to raise funds for any purpose of relief or assistance to our Lodge or to individual members.

Fraternally yours,

[SEAL.]

.....N. G.
Sec'y. .

Grand Master's Expenses.

SEC. 5. When the Grand Master, or his Deputy, shall visit this Lodge officially, by invitation or request of the Lodge, his necessary expenses shall be paid by this Lodge.

Spirituuous Liquors.

SEC. 6. All spirituuous, vinous, and malt liquors shall be excluded from the Lodge room and ante-rooms or halls connected with or adjoining thereto, when under the control of the Lodge.

Emblems.

SEC. 7. Any member of this Lodge who shall have painted upon his sign any of the emblems, mottoes, or initials of the Order, or otherwise exhibit them upon the same, or have them printed or engraved upon his business card, or expose them in any public place as a sign, or use them in any way as an advertisement, may be suspended or expelled therefor, and if he persists therein after notice from the Lodge, he shall be expelled.

No Division of Funds.

SEC. 8. The funds and properties of this Lodge (having been raised for the purpose of relieving sick and distressed brethren, and other charitable uses in the Order) shall not be divided in any manner among the members individually or between this Lodge and another that may branch from it, but shall remain for its legitimate purpose the property of the Lodge, as long as its charter is unclaimed and five members remain in good standing in the Lodge; except when the Lodge shall number three hundred members or more in regular standing, when upon application of the Lodge, the Grand Lodge may grant leave for the equal division of the members of the Lodge and the funds thereof, under such restrictions as the Grand Lodge may deem proper.

Should the Lodge fail, from any cause, to continue as a working body and yield up its charter, the money and property of whatsoever kind, of which it may be possessed, and belonging thereto, must be surrendered and paid over to the Grand Lodge, to be held in trust, and applied only to the objects for which they were collected, as provided by the laws of the Order.

Regalia and Jewels.

SEC. 9. The regalia and jewels to be worn by the officers and members of this Lodge shall be as prescribed by the Sovereign Grand Lodge.

Mourning Badge.

SEC. 10. The mourning badge to be worn by brothers, in memory of a deceased brother, shall be a strip of black crape, passed through one button-hole only of the left lapel of the coat, and tied with a narrow ribbon of the color of the highest degree which the wearer has attained.

Funeral Regalia.

SEC. 11. The regalia to be worn by all brothers when attending the funeral of a deceased brother, shall be a black crape rosette, having a center of the color of the highest degree to which the wearer may have attained, to be worn on the left breast; above it a sprig of evergreen and below it (if the wearer be an elective or past officer) the jewel or jewels which as such he may be entitled to wear. The regalia may be worn either alone or in connection with the usual regalia of the Order, as the Lodge may determine.

ARTICLE XI.

OF THIS CONSTITUTION.

Interpretation.

SECTION I. When any doubt arises as to the true meaning of any part of these Articles. it shall be determined by the Grand Lodge.

Amendment.

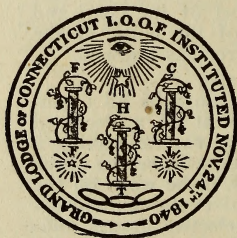
SEC. 2. This Lodge shall not alter, amend, suspend, or annul these Articles, or any part thereof the Grand Lodge only having power to do so.

Adopted by the Grand Lodge at the annual session held in Hartford, May 19, 1909.

A true copy,

Attest:

William S. Hutchison
Grand Secretary



Grand Lodge 1915. Subordinate Lodge Constitution Amendments.

The following are the provisions of the Subordinate Lodge Constitution as they now stand as amended at the Connecticut Grand Lodge Session of 1915, as contained in the recommendations of the Grand Master's report:

Add to Article I a new heading and section:

SESSIONS.

SECTION 7. This Lodge shall hold regular weekly sessions (or semi-monthly if the Grand Lodge has so specially authorized) on such evenings, and at such hours, as may be specified in the By-Laws.

Special sessions may be called by the Noble Grand at option, and such sessions shall be called on the written request of five or more members, at which special sessions no business shall be transacted except that specified in the notice, and every member must be notified, either by written or printed circulars, by mail, or personally; *providing*, that if such Lodge is situated in a town of which a daily newspaper is published, a notice of said special meeting inserted at least twenty-four hours previous to the time of meeting shall be deemed a sufficient notice thereof.

At special meetings no applications for membership shall be received or acted upon.

In Article II change Section 4 with heading to read:

APPLICATION.

SECTION 4. Every person wishing to become a member of this Lodge must himself sign an application therefor in the form of application following, and be recommended by a member of this Lodge, who shall sign his name to the application as recommender:

FORM OF APPLICATION.

*To the Officers and Members of
Lodge, No., working under the Juris-
diction of the Grand Lodge of the Indepen-
dent Order of Odd Fellows of the State of
Connecticut:*

I respectfully request admission into this Lodge, and in consideration of such admission I promise and agree that, if elected, I will conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of your Lodge and those of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and that I will seek my remedy for all rights on account of said membership or connection therewith, in the tribunals of the Order only, without resorting for their enforcement in any event or for any purpose to the civil courts, until I have exhausted all remedies provided in or by the Order first.

I was born at, on
19..... My age is years; my occupa-
tion is; my residence is
.....; my helath is good.

Dated

Witness

Signed

ARTICLE IV.

OF DUES AND BENEFITS.

DUES AND ARREARS.

SECTION 1. The regular contributions of each member of the Lodge for dues, as well as the amounts for widow and orphan fund, education fund, watching assessments, and funeral tax, shall be determined by the By-Laws, and the dues shall not be less than six dollars a year, and whenever any member fails to discharge his indebtedness to the Lodge within the time prescribed by said By-Laws, which in no case shall be more than thirteen weeks, he is in arrears and not entitled to benefits; nor would a funeral expense or benefit be due should he die while non-beneficial; and the Lodge shall suspend all members who for twelve months neglect or refuse payment of the sums so determined; and any member so suspended shall, upon reinstatement within one year from the time of his suspension, before he can again be admitted, be required to pay into the Lodge the amount of one year's dues; but after one year he shall pay for reinstatement the same fee as that charged for an initiate of the same age.

SICK BENEFITS.

SEC. 2. Every member qualified as herein and as required by the By-Laws shall in case of being disabled by sickness or bodily injury from following his usual occupation or otherwise earning a livelihood, provided such disability be not the result of his own vice or immorality, be entitled to and receive a weekly benefit of not less than two

dollars during the continuance of the disability, except that no benefit need be paid for the first week of sickness; *provided*, however, that when a member shall have received one full year's benefit, the benefit thereafter to such member may be fixed at not less than one dollar per week. A member of the Order becoming infirm from old age, and thereby being rendered incapable from following his usual occupation, is not entitled to weekly payments merely on account of infirmity.

FUNERAL EXPENSES.

SEC. 3. This Lodge shall provide in its By-Laws, that upon the death of a member in beneficial standing at time of death and qualified as provided in the By-Laws, a sum not less than thirty dollars (or such part thereof as may be necessary) shall be appropriated and used to defray the funeral *expenses* incurred, and for no other purpose; *provided*, if said expenses shall have been paid by a relative or friend of the deceased, then the amount so expended, in no case to exceed the amount appropriated, shall be paid to such relative or friend. In the absence of competent relations, the Noble Grand shall take charge of the funeral, and render an account of the disbursements.

FUNERAL BENEFITS.

SEC. 4. This Lodge may provide in its By-Laws for the appropriation of a sum, which in case of the death of a member in beneficial standing at the time of death and qualified as provided in the By-Laws, shall be paid as funeral *benefit*, to the widow, orphans under the age of twenty-one years, or dependent relatives, or relatives upon whom the

deceased was dependent at the time of death; but such benefit shall not be paid to any other person or organization.

BENEFITS TO BE VOTED.

SEC. 5. The funeral and sick benefits except as to arrearages and non-beneficial standing as set forth in this Constitution shall be regulated by the By-Laws of the Lodge; and all orders drawn for them shall be by vote of the Lodge.

BENEFICIAL OR NON-BENEFICIAL WHEN SICK.

SEC. 6. A member in arrears (and not entitled to benefits) at the commencement of a sickness cannot become beneficial during that sickness, so as to draw benefits for the period of said sickness, or any part thereof, nor would a funeral benefit or expense be due in case of his death while in non-beneficial standing.

A member beneficial at the commencement of a sickness cannot be deprived of benefits during that sickness. It shall be the duty of the Lodge to deduct from benefits payable to a member whatever sums may be due to the Lodge from such member.

ARTICLE X.

OF VARIOUS MATTERS.

APPEALS.

SECTION 1. Any member believing that any action of this Lodge is contrary to the laws of the Order, or to the laws of the Grand Lodge, or to the Constitution or By-Laws of this Lodge, may, within four weeks thereafter present to the Lodge

his written appeal from such action to the D. D. G. M. of the district, stating the action appealed from the grounds of his appeal, which shall be entered in full upon the records of the Lodge and placed on file; whereupon the Secretary shall, without delay, transmit to that officer a certified copy of the records of the Lodge, under seal, and all papers referring to the appeal, with an account of said action, and the Lodge shall await the D. D. G. M.'s decision thereon, which shall be rendered in writing, with a return of all papers, at the next regular meeting. When the decision has been rendered, the Lodge, or any member thereof, may appeal therefrom to the Grand Master, within two weeks, whereupon the Secretary shall, without delay, transmit to that officer a like certified copy and account of said action, and the decision of the D. D. G. M. thereon, and the Lodge shall await the decision of the Grand Master, which shall be binding upon the Lodge until the next regular session of the Grand Lodge, and thereafter unless the decision of the Grand Master is reversed or qualified by the Grand Lodge. After a decision from the Grand Master has been received by the Lodge, the Lodge, or any member thereof, may appeal therefrom to the next regular session of the Grand Lodge, by sending to the Grand Master written notice of such appeal, and if the appellant be a member only, by notifying the Secretary of the Lodge. When such an appeal from the Grand Master is taken, he will present the papers upon which his decision is rendered, to the Grand Lodge, together with his decision for their action. In case there shall be no D. D. G. M. of the district, or in case of his absence from the district, the appeal from the Lodge may, in the first instance, be made directly to the Grand Master. When an appeal is taken to the D. D. G. M., or to

the Grand Master, the member making the appeal, or the Lodge, may prepare and transmit to the officer to whom the appeal is taken, in the form of a letter, an argument upon the questions of law involved in the appeal.

This section shall have no reference to questions arising upon trials and actions of Lodges on charges, which are governed by Article VII herein.

Adopted by the Grand Lodge at the annual session held in Bridgeport, May 19, 1915.

A true copy.

Attest:

William S. Hutchison
Grand Secretary



